

**Q & A DOCUMENT**  
**Extended Year for Special Educators - Special Educator Stipends**

**Question:** When does the extended year for special educators begin?

**Answer:** The program is in effect for the 2008-2009 school year. The special educators specified as being eligible for the stipends will be able to work two weeks before the first contract day of the 08-09 school year and two weeks after the 08-09 school year ends. Special educators in year-round schools will be eligible to work during off-track, but not vacation periods.

**Question:** Who does this apply to?

**Answer:** Special education teachers (preschool and school-age) and speech-language pathologists are eligible to work the extended days and receive a stipend for their work.

**Question:** How many days can we work?

**Answer:** For the 2008-2009 school year, the legislature appropriated enough money for eligible teachers to work a total of 3 extra days.

**Question:** How many hours do we have to work each day in order to receive a stipend?

**Answer:** A work day means the special educator's regular contract day as determined by the employer.

**Question:** How much will we be paid for the extended school year days?

**Answer:** Each eligible special educator will receive a stipend of \$200.00 per day, plus applicable benefits (retirement, workers' compensation, social security, Medicare).

**Question:** What if we are part-time employees? Do we still qualify for the stipend?

**Answer:** A person who is a part-time employee is eligible for a partial stipend equal to whatever percentage of a full-time position the person holds. For example, a half-time employee would be eligible for 50% of the stipend.

**Question:** What duties are we able to perform while we are working the extended days?

**Answer:** You may do IEP related duties, records maintenance, file preparation, report preparation, assessment related duties, conferring with parents, and other paperwork related to the implementation of IDEA. The extended days may not be used for professional development, district level planning, or direct student instruction.

**Question:** Can we split the days and work two before the school year begins and one after the school year ends?

**Answer:** There is nothing in the statute or administrative rule that would prohibit splitting the days between the beginning and the end of the school year.

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